

Meeting
of the
Manzanar Co-operative Enterprises Incorporated
Mess Hall #22
November 6, 1942
7:35 p.m.--9:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Inazu. Mr. George Shinno called the roll of members by blocks. It was announced that a quorum was not present since a quorum is constituted by the presence of 68 members and only 48 were present. It was pointed out that many of the members were out on furlough work, some have moved since the last meeting, and others have resigned their positions.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be postponed in order that replacements be made either by election or by appointment. This motion was unanimously passed without opposition. Then, the chairman said that the motion and the action taken on the motion was illegal since a quorum was lacking. Subsequent to that, the chairman threw out the motion on that ground.

Dr. Bruce, Supervisor of Community Enterprises, gave two alternatives by which the meeting could be conducted. (1) All questions ordinarily decided by the members of the Congress could be left for referral to the next meeting. (2) The lack of quorum could be left unquestioned by the body and no mention of the lack be put into the minutes. This precipitated a short discussion. Since the meeting was not official and since the members could not vote legally or act on any question, a few of the members took the opportunity to leave.

The meeting was changed to a Board of Directors' meeting at 8:15 and the Congress was invited to listen to the meeting. Most of the members of the Co-operative Congress left the mess-hall. Mr. George Shinno called the roll for the Board of Directors' members. Then, the minutes of a Board of Directors' meeting was read by the secretary. Mr. Tsuchiya made a report of the progress made by the Educational Committee.

Mr. George Matsumura gave a short progress report of the accomplishments of the Board of Directors. The books were audited by a Mr. Jacobsen. The actual transfer of all community enterprises to the co-operative is now in progress. If taxes are to be deducted, they amount to between ten and twenty-one thousand dollars. The salaries to be paid to the War Relocation Authority for the people working for the Co-operatives amount to eight thousand dollars. This will be paid at a rate of one thousand dollars per month.

The transfer of assets and liabilities to the Co-operative Enterprises, Inc. has not yet been completed. The steps which have to be taken were enumerated as follows: 1. The minutes of the first pre-organizational meeting must be written. 2. The minutes of the first organizational meeting must be written. 3. There must be a waiver of notice for the first meeting.

4. There must be a transfer of all documents from the Community Enterprises to the Co-operative Enterprises. 5. Application must be made for the permit for membership. 6. The membership must be actually solicited and noted.

It was announced that rebates may be given starting from October the first.

Mr. George Shinno gave a Membership Committee report. He said that the rebate will be in the form of a cash order.

The Financial Committee report was postponed until the next Congress meeting. The same was true of a few other committee reports.

In regard to the possibility of having a photographer for Manzanar, it was pointed out that by a WRA ruling, only the Co-operative Enterprises can handle photo work. At the present time, an outside photographer comes in from time to time.

The shoe repair shop could be opened soon. About \$500 to \$550 was required in order to supplement the supplies and equipment already on hand.

The Co-op can handle a watch repair shop. At present, Mr. Seki is working in the Dry Goods store, but this is not official. If enough funds are available, this service can be extended to all of the people.

There are vacancies on the Board of Directors which must be filled. The open positions are for two Issei and one Nisei. A five man committee recommended the following nominees for the posts: Nisei: Mr. Ikkanda, Mr. Fukuzawa, and Mr. Yasuda. Issei: Mr. Kurahashi, Mr. Kurozumi, Mr. Tsuchiya, Mr. Wakano, and Mr. Shimoda.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that there will be a loss of seat in the Congress of Board of Directors for the members who are absent from three consecutive meetings without sufficient notice.

The date for the next Congress meeting was set as November 16, 1942.

There was a short discussion as to the feasibility of having the Carpentry Section of the Education Department put on an exhibit at 19-15 in order to display and sell some of its work. The money obtained from the sales would be used to purchase lumber and needed tools for the men.

At 9:45 p.m., I left. The meeting was still in progress, but it was dragging and nothing much was being done.